

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 23, 2017**

LOCATION: Public Services Administration Building (PSAB), Charles River Room

ATTENDING: Sue Barber, Janet Carter Bernardo, Stephen Farr, Peter Oehlkers, Alison Richardson, Matthew Varrell (Director of Conservation), Debbie Anderson (Conservation Specialist)

GUESTS: Andrew Adams, Gregg Clickstein, Inge Daniels, Jamie Fair, Steve Gentile, Mel Higgins, Shirley Klepadlo, Bob Lewis, Gregory McSweeney, Joyce McSweeney, Steve Popper, Mike Richard, Diane Simonelli, Tom Smithsone, Jaime Walker

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public meeting at 7:35 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes, as amended, of March 9, 2017 by S. Farr, seconded by A. Richardson, approved 5-0-0.

ENFORCEMENT & VIOLATION UPDATES:

33 BURR ROAD

D. Anderson explained that the owner, Mr. Ruderman, had started tree removal on the property prior to the required pre-construction meeting with Conservation staff. D. Anderson visited the site after a call from a neighbor and found the trees had already been taken down. The arborist was onsite at the time of the inspection. The trees were permitted for removal under the OOC, and erosion controls had been installed.

Mr. Ruderman was unable to attend the meeting and sent his Landscape Architect, Inge Daniels, to the meeting. Ms. Daniels apologized for the oversight and ensured that no additional work would take place before the pre-construction site meeting is held. The Commission chose not to issue an Enforcement Order or fine the owner. The Commission advised the permit holder to ensure the rest of the project remains in compliance with their project.

HEARINGS

135 MAPLE STREET – NOTICE OF INTENT (DEP FILE #234-XXX)

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. The Applicant, Andrew Adams and the Wetlands Consultant, Jaime Walker, were in attendance. Jaime Walker presented the proposed project. The project includes the demolition of the existing two-unit condominium and accessory garage and the construction of a new two-unit condominium with attached garages and patios. The wetland boundary begins approximately 20 feet from the rear of the existing garage. Wetlands encompass the rear half of the property. A revised Plan was handed out to the Commission at the hearing which included revisions made after discussions with Conservation

staff. The main change was the proposed condominium footprint was moved out of the 25-foot Buffer Zone.

J. Walker explained that there is quite a bit of trash and debris within the wetland and surrounding area. In addition, invasive species are prevalent on the site. The proposed stormwater infiltration system is designed to infiltrate all the new impervious area on the site to the 1-inch storm event. Twelve (12) mature hemlock trees are proposed for removal. They plan to remove invasive species, plant twelve (12) new trees and eight (8) shrubs. There was a discussion of the proposed plantings.

J. Walker explained that there is an existing path within the wetlands used by people cutting through the property. A. Richardson questioned the proposed grading. An abutter, Tom Smithsone, gave some background regarding the historic usage of the trail and claimed the trash issue is a recent occurrence. He also noted how wet the wetland becomes and problems with potential flooding. J. Carter Bernardo explained the proposed infiltration design. The Applicant will need to revise their Planting Plan to have either 12 additional trees or twenty-four (24) additional shrubs. There is no DEP File Number issued yet.

Motion to continue the public hearing for 135 Maple Street (DEP File #234-XXX) to April 13, 2017 @ 8:00 p.m. for submittal of a revised plan and issuance of a DEP File Number by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

470 DEDHAM AVENUE – continued NOTICE OF INTENT (DEP FILE #234-778)

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public hearing at 8:20 p.m. The Applicant, Steve Popper, Director of the Town of Needham, Public Facilities, Construction Division and the Consultant from Weston & Sampson, Jamie Fair, were in attendance. J. Fair presented the proposed project. The project consists of removing the existing underground fuel tanks and replacing them with new modern above-ground tanks in the DPW yard and overlaying the existing asphalt. Mr. Fair described the wetland resources, including the reservoir, Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and their associated Buffer Zone, and perennial stream and its associated 200-foot Riverfront Area.

The above-ground tanks will be monitored electronically. The above-ground system will come on-line prior to the removal of the underground tanks. Removal of the existing salt shed is part of this filing. J. Carter Bernardo asked J. Fair to consider when planning for the new construction on the site, that the Town Engineer will be requiring that they infiltrate all the new roof runoff. The new fuel island will be set on a concrete slab. The existing salt shed to be removed has a paved slab beneath it which will be removed, thereby reducing the amount of impervious area. The new access and traffic pattern for vehicles was discussed. Stormwater treatment was discussed, as well as, results of soil test findings. A few small trees will need to be removed to install a proposed swale.

Containment in the case of a spill or leak at the fuel island was discussed. J. Fair explained that many towns are replacing their underground tanks with the improved above-ground tanks. S. Farr voiced his concern regarding why this location was chosen, enquiring why it couldn't be relocated outside of the Buffer Zones to wetland resources. S. Popper stated that this location was chosen as part of the overall Feasibility Study conducted by the Town. M. Varrell asked about the plan for the displaced DPW equipment that will result from this project. The equipment will be moved to the area where the salt shed will be removed and fenced in.

A new filing package will be submitted by the Applicant by March 30, 2017. The purpose of this discussion was an introduction to the proposed project for the Commission. J. Carter Bernardo will be on vacation for the April 13th Conservation Commission meeting and would like time to review the stormwater calculations and provide comment. M. Varrell will forward the calculations to J. Carter Bernardo when they are submitted.

Motion to continue the public meeting for 470 Dedham Avenue (DEP File #234-778), for the submittal of a complete revised Notice of Intent application, to April 13, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

50 SUNSET ROAD – continued NOTICE OF INTENT (DEP FILE #234-779)

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public hearing at 9:00 p.m. M. Varrell stated that the Commission had not received the requested additional information and revised plan. The Hearing will need to be continued to the April 13, 2017 Conservation Commission Meeting.

Motion to continue the public meeting for 50 Sunset Road (DEP File #234-779) for additional information, to April 13, 2017 at 7:45 p.m. by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

138 COUNTRY WAY – NOTICE OF INTENT (DEP FILE #234-780)

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public hearing at 9:00 p.m. D. Simonelli of Field Resources, Inc. presented on behalf of the Applicant. D. Simonelli stated that a site visit took place on the property over the past weekend to understand drainage issues that are of concern to the abutter and was attended by J. Carter Bernardo and the abutter, G. McSweeney. D. Simonelli attended part of the meeting. There was discussion regarding the man-made trench and runoff issues to the abutter's property. D. Simonelli revised the plan to include the addition of a swale to divert any water flow away from the abutting property. A trench drain was added to collect driveway runoff.

D. Simonelli had updated the plan and calculations to reflect the infiltration of all of the proposed roof runoff. J. Carter Bernardo discussed the site visit and stated that the abutter had pointed out that a trench had been dug by the previous owner to divert water from the stream channel to the man-made pond on the property. J. Carter Bernardo stated that the Applicant has agreed to fill the trench with loam by hand during dry conditions, and compact and seed it with wetland seed mix. M. Varrell suggested the Applicant install coir logs or mulch tubes on the sides of the trench instead of the proposed silt fence.

D. Simonelli stated that the existing shed will remain. Additional plantings are proposed consisting of grasses. The Commission would prefer shrubs be added to the area as well. The existing debris in the stream channel will be removed by hand to the extent possible. Grading to the south of the house was revised and discussed with the Commission, who requested additional revisions. Existing boulders will be relocated to delineate the edge of the wetland, and the Conservation emblems will be attached. A. Richardson discussed revisions required to the pervious paver detail.

The abutter, Greg Zais, stated that there is currently no runoff coming onto his property and would like to keep it that way. There was discussion regarding the proposed swale. J. Carter Bernardo suggested a small berm be installed along with the swale to prevent runoff onto Mr. Zais's property.

J. Carter-Bernardo described that the Applicant will be required to submit a revised plan showing clear grading, design of the proposed swale and a narrative to explain it, show the additional shrubs, show the coir logs or mulch tubes to the filled trench instead of the silt fence, show boulders along the wetland edge, revise the pervious patio detail, the removal of the debris, revisions to the grading at the 193 contour and the revision to six (6) infiltration chambers on the plan.

Motion to continue the public meeting for 138 Country Way (DEP File #234-780), for a revised plan and narrative, to April 13, 2017 at 8:30 p.m. by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – BABSON COLLEGE (DEP FILE #234-353)

M. Varrell stated that the Applicant had requested that any discussion on the Request be postponed to the next meeting.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – BABSON COLLEGE (DEP FILE #234-395)

M. Varrell stated that the Applicant had requested that any discussion on the Request be postponed to the next meeting

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – 19 JENNIFER CIRCLE (DEP FILE #234-588)

D. Anderson gave a brief overview of the history of the project. The Applicant had proposed tree removal, grading, creation of a grassed access strip to the rear of the property and installation of a pool house. The stream located within 200 feet of the proposed work, at the time the OOC was issued, was considered perennial.

A subsequent filing (DEP File #234-595) in 2013 was submitted with adequate proof that the stream was actually intermittent, thereby removing the 200-foot Riverfront Area from the site. Of the work done through the (DEP File #234-588) permit, the grassed access strip is the only piece still jurisdictional or within the 100-foot Buffer Zone. The pool house was constructed only within the designated Riverfront Area and outside the Buffer Zone. The Applicant provided the Commission with the same documentation as they did with the (DEP File #234-595) Certificate of Compliance Request. An As-Built Plan of the grass access strip will not be necessary to close out the Permit.

Motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 19 Jennifer Circle (DEP File #234-588) by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – 159 OXBOW ROAD (DEP FILE #234-756)

M. Varrell reported that the Order of Conditions had required that the Engineer submit test pit information after witnessing the installation of the test pit, which was not received. M. Varrell

has left a message with the Engineer, Joyce Hastings, P.E. but has not heard back from her at this point. The Commission will table the Certificate of Compliance discussion until the April 13, 2017 Conservation Commission Meeting in anticipation of receiving the information from the Engineer.

**NEEDHAM PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPAIR/MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY
NOTIFICATION FORM (DEP FILE #234-630) – HORSFORD POND (PARKING LOT
REPAIR)**

D. Anderson described the proposed project which entails repairs to the existing Horsford Pond gravel parking lot. Low areas are proposed to be filled by hand with crushed stone, consistent with other pervious parking areas in town.

Motion to allow the Town of Needham, DPW to repair the depressions within the Horsford Pond parking lot with stone by hand, by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 7:30 PM in the Public Services Administration Building, Charles River Room.